

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018943

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: NASA STATION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) TANANARIVE 85; (B) STATE 9253; (C) TANANARIVE 112

1. IN VIEW MALAGASY P AND T LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR MAJOR PORTION TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT DISCUSSED EARLIER AS PART OF SYMBOLIC GESTURE, EMBASSY REQUESTED AT NEXT NEGOTIATING SESSION TO REMIND GOMR TEAM AGAIN THAT THIS ONLY LATEST IN MATERIALS AND SERVICES WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO MADAGASCAR OVER THE YEARS AS RESULT OF NASA STATION PRESENCE.

2. THESE INCLUDE:

A. APT EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IN 1964 VALUED AT DOLS 56,000, INCLUDING ANTENNA AND SPARES. DURING PERIOD NASA OPERATION THIS EQUIPMENT (1964-67) DATA RECEIVED PROVIDED TO GOMR AND TRAINING PROVIDED TO MALAGASY PERSONNEL IN EQUIPMENT OPERATION AND DATA INTERPRETATION. WHEN
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MALAGASY ASSUMED OPERATION RESPONSIBILITY IN 1967, NASA

RETAINED TITLE ON BASIS OF WHICH IT HAS PROVIDED ALL MAINTENANCE AS WELL AS ALL OPERATING SUPPLIES AND REPLACEMENTS.

B. NASA TURNED OVER TO GOMR IN 1970 THREE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS VALUED AT DOLS 222,000.

C. NASA LAID WATER PIPELINE TO VILLAGE OF IMERINTSIAOSIKA USING AID-SUPPLIED MATERIALS, AND SINCE 1967 HAS PROVIDED WATER TO VILLAGE FROM NASA DEEP WELLS. IN 1971 NASA ADDED TAPS TO PIPELINE FOR DIRECT PROVISION OF WATER TO LOCAL HOSPITAL AND SCHOOL. NASA HAS ALSO PROVIDED LOCAL AREA WITH AMBULANCE AND FIRE TRUCK SERVICE FOR PAST FIVE YEARS, HAS DONATED SURPLUS TRUCKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND STATION IS PROVIDING ELECTRICAL POWER TO COMMUNICATIONS RELAY STATION BETWEEN TANANARIVE AND INTELSAT EARTH STATION. ALTHOUGH LOW COST ITEMS, THESE ARE ALL OF IMPORTANCE TO LOCAL PEOPLE.

3. DEPT AND NASA BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT, IN VIEW OF P AND T REACTION TO PROPOSED OFFER, TO EMPHASIZE ANNUAL DOLLAR INPUT TO MALAGASY ECONOMY DESCRIBED PARA 3 REFTEL B, WITH PARTICULAR STRESS ON INTELSAT CIRCUITS.

4. APPRECIATE SUGGESTION REFTEL C, BUT NASA HAS NO SUCH ALTERNATIVES IN ITS INVENTORY. KISSINGER

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